

**1974-75
PERFORMING ARTS
SERIES**

**York University
Faculty of Fine Arts**



SPECIAL PACKAGE

A PROGRAM OF MUSIC BY COMPOSERS FROM QUEBEC

Performed by members of NEW MUSIC CONCERTS of Toronto

MADRIGAL IV (1972) ----- Bruce Mather

Lyric Arts Trio:

Mary Morrison - soprano
Robert Aitken - flute
Marion Ross - piano

CAGE D'OISEAU (1962) ----- Serge Garant

Mary Morrison - soprano
Marion Ross - piano

"...LE SIFFLEMENT DES VENTS
PORTEURS DE L'AMOUR..." (1971) ----- Gilles Tremblay

Robert Aitken - flute
John Wyre - percussion

I N T E R M I S S I O N

PLEASE NOTE: Food, drinks and cameras are not permitted
in the auditorium. SMOKING IS PROHIBITED.

PROGRAMME NOTES

BRUCE MATHER ----- Madrigal IV

Born in Toronto in 1939, Mather studied composition in Paris with Darius Milhaud and Olivier Messiaen, and earned degrees in music from Stanford University and the University of Toronto. Also a well-known pianist, he performs regularly on the Société de Musique Contemporaine du Québec concert series, and is part of the renowned duo-piano team - Le Page & Mather. Since 1966 he has taught composition at McGill University.

Part of a series of five madrigals inspired by poems of the late Canadian poet Saint-Denys Garneau, "Madrigal IV" was commissioned by the Lyric Arts Trio. The text is based exclusively on one sentence from Garneau's poetry: "Et mon regard part en chasse effrénément de cette splendeur qui s'en va, qui s'échappe par les fissures du temps". A short text, few words, a breath, in the spirit of an epigrammatic Japanese poem, Mather's music serves as a subtle ink drawing around the poem. The tape part consists of recorded flutes and soprano only, which at the beginning forms simply a back-drop for the live performers, and later a coordinated quartet (i.e. 2 sopranos and 2 flutes) and finally a canon in which the performers play the same music as the tape but somewhat delayed.

SERGE GARANT ----- Cage d'oiseau

Born in Quebec City in 1929, Garant studied composition with Claude Champagne in Montreal and with Olivier Messiaen and Mme. Honneger in Paris. One of the leading forces behind contemporary music in Quebec, he is Musical Director of the Société de Musique Contemporaine du Québec (Montreal's counterpart to New Music Concerts in Toronto) and professor of composition at the University of Montreal. As an indication of his stature, in 1973 he was recipient of a substantial fellowship awarded by the Canadian Cultural Institute in Rome for a year's creative study in Italy.

"Cage d'oiseau", for soprano and piano, is a setting, also by the poet Saint-Denys Garneau. The sense of Garneau's verses may be rendered as follows: "I am a bird-cage; a bird-cage of bones, in which Death makes his nest." The image is carried skillfully and gently throughout the poem without a touch of the grotesque, concluding with the idea that when Death has eaten all, he will end with "my soul in his beak."

GILLES TREMBLAY ----- "...le sifflement des vents porteurs de l'amour..."

Born in Arvida, Quebec in 1932, Tremblay studied composition in Paris with Olivier Messiaen, Yvonne Loriod, and Maurice Martenot - the inventor of the ondes Martenot - becoming the first Canadian specialist on that instrument. While still a student, he met Edgar Varese in New York, which had a significant and lasting influence on his music. Currently a professor at the Conservatoire de Musique de la Province de Québec in Montreal, the enticing music of this composer has been widely performed and acclaimed in France and Canada.

The composer writes: "The title, "...the whistling of the winds - bearers of love..." is a quotation from the Spiritual Canticle XIV by St. John of the Cross. The theme of this is wind, physically and spiritually (pneuma, spiritus). Its presence forms the music - breath, through the pureness of silence: frozen states, plays and possibilities ("...bearers of love..."). In addition to this verse, fascinating idea of the "First moment of the Resurrection".

MICHEL GONNEVILLE ----- Trois Poèmes d'Alain Fournier

Born in Montreal in 1959, and presently a student of Gilles Tremblay, Gonneville will receive his composition diploma this spring from the Conservatoire de Musique de Montréal. He has spent several summers studying composition in Darmstadt and Paris, and plans to return to Europe for further study next year.

About his work he writes: "For me, as a young composer, "Les Trois Poèmes" was another way of chasing craftsmanship ghosts out of my mind. I composed the first parts freely, the second parts in a more strictly organized manner, the second influencing the first, and the piece then correcting itself as it progressed. The poems, those of a friend, speak of frost, the contemplation of an autumn's April (on regard seulement alors qu'il faudrait sortir), and a sharing of what is "yours, mine, ours - like the waves liberate themselves and become the sea again". What remains is what I call an intimate, needle-engraved work of high-pitched sounds."

CLAUDE VIVIER ----- Lettura di Dante

Of himself, Vivier writes: "Born in Montreal in 1948. Born to music with Gilles Tremblay in 1968. Born to composition with Stockhausen in 1972.

Of his music he writes: "Seen a strange star, t'was written: I am a melody in six cells but my whole has seven parts. I have a voice you don't see, a presence you don't hear. And a strange vessel took off my tea table, I opened my eyes, a smiling Signore Danct stood in front of me with a nice gift. T'was Lettura di Dante. That was the plus one! And still, still a childish sadness hearing gone voices..."

TROIS POEMES D'ALAIN FOURNIER (1974)--- Michel Gonneville

Pauline Vaillencourt	- soprano
Robert Aitken	- flute
James Campbell	- clarinet

LETTURA DI DANTE (1974)----- Claude Vivier

Pauline Vaillencourt	- soprano
Sandra Watts	- oboe
James Campbell	- clarinet
Harvey Saltzman	- bassoon
Paul Armin	- viola
Fred Mills	- trumpet
Eugene Watts	- trombone
John Wyre	- percussion

Electronics by the Canadian Electronic Ensemble.

THE AUDIENCE IS CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND A RECEPTION FOLLOWING THIS PERFORMANCE TO MEET THE ARTISTS. IT WILL BE HELD IN THE LOBBY OF THE FINE ARTS BUILDING ADJOINING BURTON AUDITORIUM. A LICENSED BAR AND SOFT DRINKS WILL BE OPEN DURING THE INTERMISSION IN THE LOBBY OF THE FINE ARTS BUILDING. DRINKS WILL BE AVAILABLE, OR YOU MAY PURCHASE DRINK TICKETS FOR USE AT THE RECEPTION FOLLOWING THE PERFORMANCE.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Wednesday, October 2
LE GROUPE DE LA PLACE ROYALE

Monday, October 7
ANTHONY BRAXTON QUARTET

Friday and Saturday, October 18, 19
THE ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

Tuesday, November 5
FRASER & DEBOLT

Monday, November 18
LE TRETEAU DE PARIS

Wednesday, November 20
WAVERLY CONSORT

Monday, December 9
MURRAY LOUIS DANCE COMPANY

Thursday, January 16
LAURA DEAN & DANCE COMPANY

Wednesday, January 29
CHHAU – THE MASKED DANCE OF BENGAL

Wednesday, February 12
FESTIVAL SINGERS

Monday, February 24
ANNA WYMAN DANCE THEATRE

Wednesday, March 5
BILL EVANS TRIO

Thursday, March 13
CATHY BERBERIAN

Thursday, March 20
NEW MUSIC FROM QUEBEC